Dotted Notes

When you put a dot next to a note, it means you are going to add half the value of that note to it. For example:



= 2 beats + ½ x 2= 1 beat

2 + 1= 3 beats

So, a **dotted half note** is held for three beats. This formula can be written as:

*n* + ½*n*= *b*

where “*n*” is the number of beats of the original note and “*b*” is the number of beats for the dotted note.

For a dotted half note:

*n*= number of beats in a half note=

We put this into the formula to get:

+ ½ ( )

= +

= beats